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1. In the summer of 1952 the Arzneimittelwerk-Dresden (AMD) was formed from the three pharmaceutical firms in the Dresden area:

- a. Gehe & Company, Leipzigerstrasse 7-12
- b. Madaus & Company, Dresden-Radebeul, Gartenstrasse
- c. Cypern & Stalling, Grosserhainerstrasse

The chemistry research organization of the AMD was installed in the Biologisches Institut, Radebeul 2, Stalinallee, in a new, modern building formerly occupied by Madaus. Research was carried out in the Biologisches Institut for all sections of the AMD, and the chemistry research facilities at the Institut fuer Farben und Textilchemie, of the Technische Hochschule-Dresden, utilized by Gehe & Company until 1952, were therefore no longer required. Gehe & Company buildings, thereafter, contained manufacturing facilities only.

2. The Chemistry Section of the Biologisches Institut occupied three modern laboratories. Its staff included Dr. Walter Siebeck who was a pharmaceutical chemist, one other chemist, and twenty female chemist assistants and laboratory helpers. Work of the Chemistry Section was directed particularly to glycoside and alkaloid research. Starting in 1952, considerable emphasis was devoted to the development of ergot alkaloids.

3. At first the AMD had no experience in the extraction of ergotamine from Claviceps purpurea. It was necessary to collect the naturally growing ergot and attempt to extract the ergotamine by the most effective method. Three procedures were attempted:

- a. extraction with petroleum ether
- b. extraction with dilute solvents
- c. fixation of the alkaloids on aluminum salts

After numerous attempts the first method was selected, although it was later established that the second method also gave satisfactory results. The third

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